

Appl. No. 10/086,574  
Amdt. dated 6/29/06  
Reply to Office Action of 6/13/06

PATENT  
Docket: 020111

### IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Canceled)
2. (Canceled)
3. (Canceled)
4. (Canceled)
5. (Canceled)
6. (Canceled)
7. (Canceled)
8. (Canceled)
9. (Canceled)
10. (Canceled)
11. (Canceled)
12. (Canceled)
13. (Canceled)
14. (Canceled)
15. (Canceled)
16. (Canceled)
17. (Canceled)
18. (Canceled)
19. (Canceled).
20. (Canceled)
21. (Canceled)

22. (Original) A method of time-tracking a plurality of fingers, each finger having an advance limit, a retard limit, and a center position located approximately equidistant from the finger's advance and retard limits, comprising:

advancing the advance and retard limits of a first finger when the first finger is advanced past the center position and the advance limit of the first finger plus a pre-determined guardband is less than the retard limit of a second finger ahead of and adjacent to the first finger; and

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retarding the advance and retard limits of the first finger when the first finger is retarded past the center position and the retard limit of the first finger minus a pre-determined guardband is greater than the advance limit of a third finger behind and adjacent to the first finger.

23. (Original) The method of claim 22, further comprising advancing the advance and retard limits of the third finger, subsequent to an advance of the advance and retard limits of the first finger, when the third finger is advanced past its center position.

24. (Original) The method of claim 22, further comprising retarding the advance and retard limits of the second finger, subsequent to a retard of the advance and retard limits of the first finger, when the second finger is retarded past its center position.

25. (Original) The method of claim 22, wherein the advance and retard limits of the first finger are advanced subsequent to an advance command to the first finger.

26. (Original) The method of claim 22, wherein the advance and retard limits of the first finger are retarded subsequent to a retard command to the first finger.

27. (Canceled)

28. (Canceled)

29. (Previously Amended) Processor readable media operable to perform a method of time-tracking a plurality of fingers, each finger having an advance and a retard limit, the method comprising the following steps:

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advancing the advance and retard limits of a first finger when the first finger is advanced past its center position and the advance limit of the first finger plus a pre-determined guardband is less than the retard limit of a second finger ahead of and adjacent to the first finger; and

retarding the advance and retard limits of a first finger when the first finger is retarded past its center position and the retard limit of the first finger minus a pre-determined guardband is greater than the advance limit of a third finger behind and adjacent to the first finger.

30. (Canceled)

31. (Canceled).

32. (Previously Amended) A Rake receiver comprising:  
a plurality of fingers having advance and retard limits;

means for advancing the advance and retard limits of a first finger when the first finger is advanced past its center position and the advance limit of the first finger plus a pre-determined guardband is less than the retard limit of a second finger ahead of and adjacent to the first finger; and

means for retarding the advance and retard limits of a first finger when the first finger is retarded past its center position and the retard limit of the first finger minus a pre-determined guardband is greater than the advance limit of a third finger behind and adjacent to the first finger.